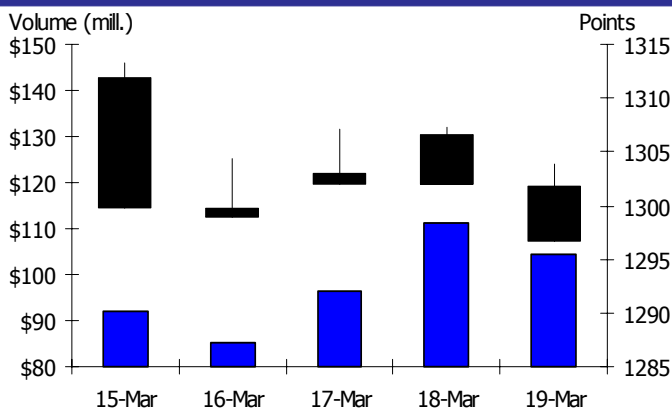


WEEKLY CLOSING IN MAJOR MARKET INDICES

	12-Mar	19-Mar	%wow	%ytd
KL Composite	1,311.20	1,296.60	-1.1	1.9
Dow Jones	10,624.69	10,741.98	1.1	3.0
Nikkei 225	10,751.26	10,824.72	0.7	2.6
DAX Index	5,945.11	5,982.43	0.6	0.4
UK FTSE100	5,625.65	5,650.12	0.4	4.4
AUS ORD 30	4,831.50	4,890.10	1.2	0.2
STI Index	2,881.36	2,915.70	1.2	0.6
Hang Seng	21,209.74	21,370.82	0.8	-2.3
SSE Index	3,013.41	3,067.75	1.8	-6.4

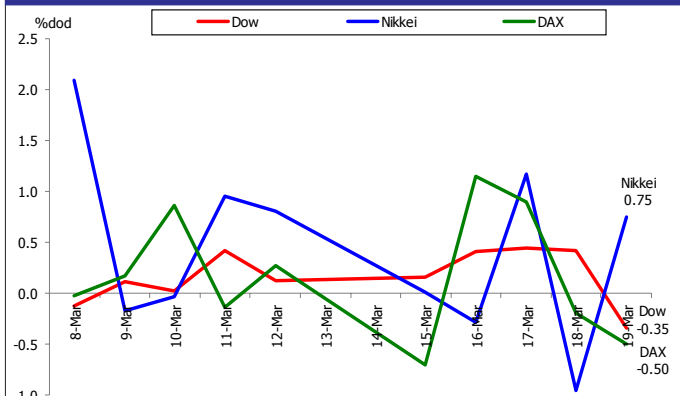
Source: Bloomberg, Bursa Malaysia

KLCI DAILY PERFORMANCE



Source: Bloomberg, Bursa Malaysia

MAJOR STOCK INDICES (DAILY % CHANGE)

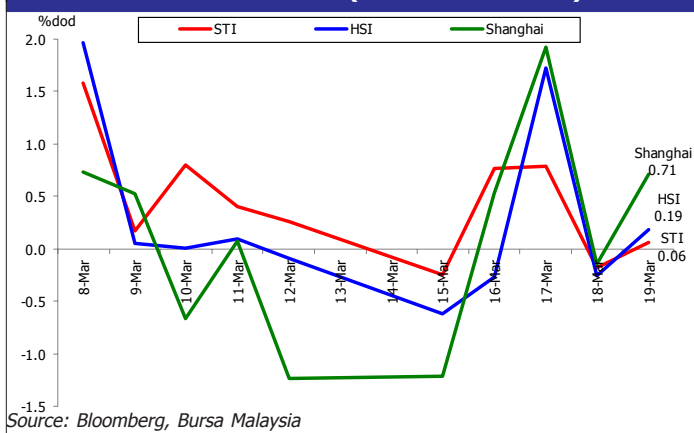


Source: Bloomberg, Bursa Malaysia

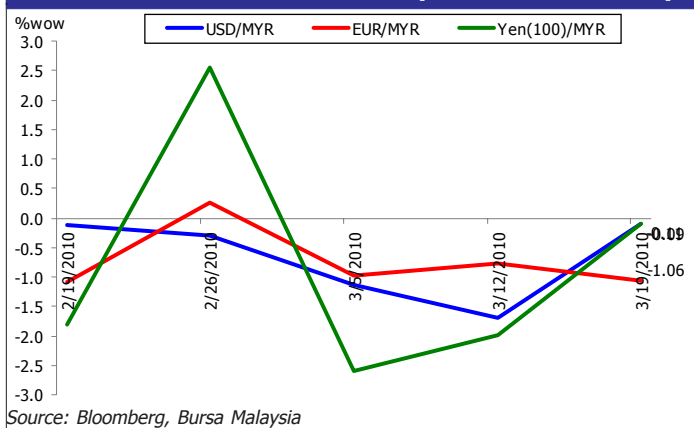
STOCK MARKET HIGHLIGHTS

- U.S. stocks advanced, sending the Dow Jones Industrial Average to a third straight weekly gain, as the Federal Reserve said it will keep interest rates near zero to nurture the economy's recovery.** The index however fell on Friday, breaking an eight-day winning streak, after India's unexpected interest rate increase raised concern the end of stimulus measures will curtail global growth. General Electric Co. climbed 6% after saying it may resume dividend increases next year. Wal-Mart Stores Inc. rallied to the highest price in 14 months as Citigroup Inc. recommended buying the stock. Intel Corp. added 3.4% after releasing a new line of computer chips. FedEx Corp. jumped 5.7% as the world's largest cargo airline said quarterly profit more than doubled on increased shipments in Asia and Europe.
- U.K. stocks gained, lifting the benchmark FTSE 100 Index to a 20-month high, amid expectations interest rates in Britain and the U.S. will stay near current lows for some time.** HSBC Holdings Plc and Royal Bank of Scotland Group Plc led an advance among financial shares, while Xstrata Plc and Fresnillo Plc paced gains by mining companies. Arriva Plc, an operator of trains and buses, jumped after saying it received a takeover offer.
- German stocks advanced for a second week to a two-month high** as the U.S. Federal Reserve retained its pledge to maintain record low interest rates for an "extended period" to safeguard the economic recovery. Siemens AG climbed to an 18-month high as Handelsblatt reported that Europe's largest engineering company plans to revamp its information technology unit to prepare it for a possible sale or initial public offering. Commerzbank AG gained 2.6% after UniCredit SpA, Italy's biggest bank, reported earnings that topped estimates.
- Japanese stocks rose to an eight-week high, buoyed by consumer lenders and commodity companies,** after the U.S. Federal Reserve pledged to keep interest rates low and the Bank of Japan expanded a bank-loan program. All but one of the Topix index's 33 industry groups climbed. Mitsubishi Corp., Japan's largest commodities trader, gained 1.3% as oil and metal prices advanced. Promise Co. increased 5.2% after the consumer lender said it will raise funds. Mitsui Mining & Smelting Co. and Dena Co. jumped at least 5% after boosting forecasts. The Bank of Japan doubled a three-month-loan facility to 20 trillion yen (US\$222 billion), aimed at shoring up liquidity in the deflation-plagued economy.
- China's stocks rose, capping the biggest weekly gain in five weeks,** as raw-material producers rallied after Aluminum Corp. of China Ltd.'s parent agreed to buy a stake in an African iron ore mine and copper prices gained. Aluminum Corp. of China, the nation's biggest maker of the material and

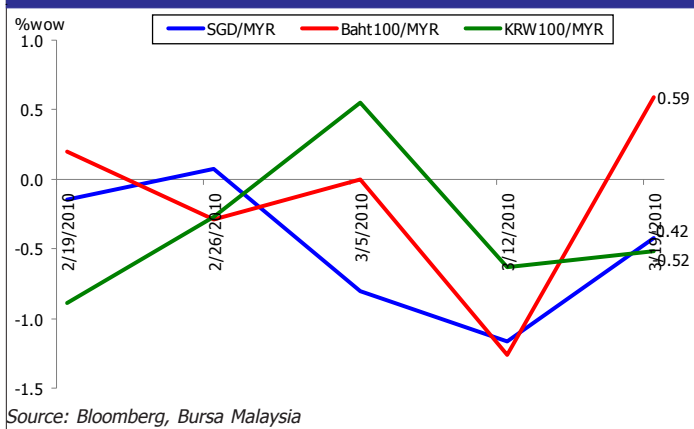
REGIONAL STOCK INDICES (DAILY % CHANGE)



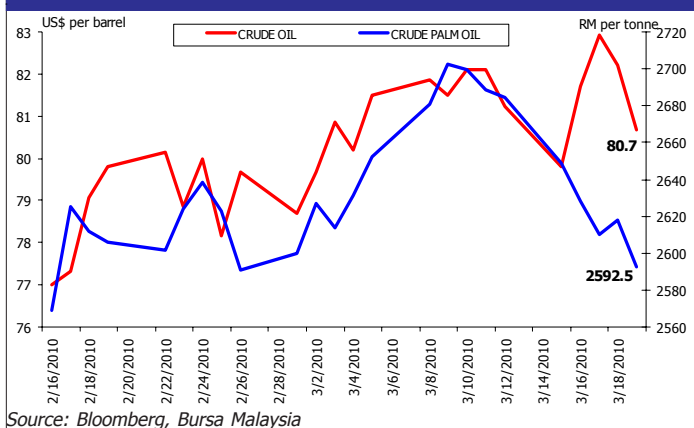
RINGGIT vs MAJOR CURRENCIES (WEEKLY % CHANGE)



RINGGIT vs REGIONAL CURRENCIES (WEEKLY % CHANGE)



CRUDE OIL vs CRUDE PALM OIL



also known as Chalco, surged the most since October. Shandong Nanshan Aluminum Co. advanced 3.5%. Jiangxi Copper Co. climbed 2.2%. Poly Real Estate Group Co. and COFCO Property (Group) Co. led gains by developers after 78 companies told by the Government to withdraw from property industry after their current projects are completed because real estate are not their core business.

- Malaysia stock market recorded its second week of decline as weak commodity prices and profit taking activities continued following the previous week rally which took the benchmark index to its highest since March 2008.** Among sectors, plantation stocks led the decline as CPO futures fell by 4.1% last week after reaching a high of RM2,701 per tonne. The three biggest plantation stocks, Sime Darby, IOI Corp. and KLK Bhd. all dropped by more than 2%. Among benchmark members, CIMB Bhd. declined the most by 2.9% as rally in financial stocks since the OPR rate hike faded. Property stocks were also weak as SP Setia Bhd., Malaysia's biggest property developer was downgraded to "market perform" from "outperform" at RHB Research Institute Sdn. Bhd. Astro All Asia Networks Plc however bucked the overall trend and surged by a record after a group led by billionaire T. Ananda Krishnan offered as much as RM2.5 billion to buy full control of the company. The shares jumped as high as 19% on Thursday to cap a weekly advance of 21.6%.

ECONOMIC HIGHLIGHTS

- US: Output gain points to more investment.** Industrial production unexpectedly rose in February, due in part to gains in demand for computers and semiconductors that signal the pickup in U.S. business investment is being sustained. Output climbed 0.1%, the eighth consecutive increase, as utility use and mining increased. Another Fed report showed factories in New York kept expanding in March as orders and employment grew. (Bloomberg)
- US: Confidence among U.S. homebuilders unexpectedly declined in March,** a sign the housing recovery is having trouble gaining momentum. The National Association of Home Builders/Wells Fargo index of builder confidence dropped to 15 this month from 17 in February. A reading below 50 means most respondents view conditions as poor. (Bloomberg)
- US: Prices of goods imported into the U.S. fell in February more than anticipated,** a sign there is little inflation pressure coming from abroad. The import price index decreased 0.3% in February, the first decline in seven months, compared with a revised 1.3% January gain. Prices excluding petroleum climbed 0.2% last month and were up 2.1% from a year earlier.
- US: Housing starts fell in February** as record snowfall in parts of the U.S. hampered construction, while fewer building permits signaled the recovery in real estate will

take longer to unfold. Builders broke ground on 575,000 homes at an annual rate, down 5.9% from 611,000 in January. February starts reflected declines in the Northeast and South, which experienced winter storms.

- **US: Key U.S. inflation measure at 6-year low.** The American consumer price index was unchanged in February, the U.S. Labour Department reported Thursday. The measure of the average change in prices of goods and services purchased by households was 0.2%, compared with the month earlier. The annual rate fell to a three-month low, from 2.6% to 2.1%. Gasoline prices dipped 1.4% and food costs rose only a marginal 0.1%. The core rate of inflation — which strips out volatile food and energy prices — rose 0.1%. That was its first decrease in 27 years and brought the annual rate down three-10ths of a percentage point to 1.3%, its lowest level since early 2004. *(CBC News)*
- **EU: European payrolls drop for sixth quarter, led by manufacturing.** Payrolls in the 16-member euro region dropped a seasonally adjusted 0.2% from the third quarter, when they declined 0.5%. From a year earlier, payrolls declined 2%. Employment among euro-region manufacturers dropped 1.1% in the fourth quarter, while construction payrolls fell 0.4%. Financial services companies employed 0.1% fewer staff in the last three months of 2009. The total number of people employed in the euro area was 144.3 million in the fourth quarter and 221.1 million in the 27-member EU. *(Bloomberg)*
- **EU: Euro zone inflation slowed in annual terms last month as expected,** suggesting price growth is likely to stay well below the European Central Bank target this year and perhaps in 2011. European Union statistics office Eurostat confirmed its earlier estimate that consumer prices in the 16-country area rose 0.9% year-over-year, after a 1.0% increase in January, as expected by economists polled by Reuters. *(Reuters)*
- **EU: The euro zone posted a large trade deficit in January,** as exports fell more sharply than imports, with sales to buyers outside of the euro zone falling sharply. European Union statistics agency Eurostat Thursday said the 16 countries that use the euro had a combined deficit in their trade in goods of €8.9 billion in January after a surplus of €4.1 billion in December 2009, a figure that was revised down from the previous estimate of €4.4 billion. *(The Wall Street Journal)*
- **Japan: Q1 large all-industry business conditions - 2.4%, q-o-q.** An index monitoring business conditions among corporations with capital of 1 billion yen or more declined 2.4% in the first quarter of 2010 following a 1.9% quarterly decline in the previous three months. The outlook for the second quarter shows a quarterly contraction of 1.6% before surging 6.8% in the third quarter. Large manufacturers' conditions were up 4.3% on quarter after surging 13.2% in the previous three months. The outlook shows a 1.9% increase in the second quarter and a 10.3% gain in the third. *(RTT News)*
- **Japan: Eases monetary policy to fight deflation.** In a bid to shore up a deflation-plagued economy, Japan's central bank eased monetary policy further Wednesday by enlarging a loan program for banks, setting the country, which has the world's second-largest economy, on a path divergent from those of other industrialized nations. Central banks around the world have in recent week's contemplated rolling back stimulus measures put in place during the economic crisis, gradually reducing excess liquidity in their banking systems. In a 5-to-2 vote at a policy meeting Wednesday, the Bank of Japan's board decided to double a loan program for banks aimed at increasing liquidity in the Japanese economy, to ¥20 trillion, or US\$222 billion. The fixed-rate loans are available for three months. The board voted unanimously to keep the bank's benchmark interest rate unchanged at 0.1%. *(New York Times)*
- **China: Foreign investment climbs a seventh month.** Foreign direct investment in China, the world's fastest-growing major economy, rose for a seventh month in February. Investment climbed 1.1% from a year earlier to US\$5.9 billion, the Ministry of Commerce press office said. The gain was the smallest since investment started to rise in August after 10 months of declines because of the global financial crisis. Investment may pick up as overseas companies bet on the strength of the Chinese economy, forecast to expand 9.9% this year, and the likelihood that the yuan will strengthen. *(Bloomberg)*
- **Malaysia: Bank Negara Malaysia's international reserves amounted to RM331.7 billion (equivalent to US\$96.8 billion) as at March 15, 2010.** In a statement on Friday, the central bank said the reserves position was sufficient to finance 9.2 months of retained imports and 4.3 times the short-term external debts. *(Bernama)*
- **Malaysia: Inflation remained at a low level with the Consumer Price Index (CPI) for February 2010 up 1.2%** compared to the same month last year but unchanged month-on-month. For the January-February period, the CPI rose 1.3% compared to the same period last year. *(Bernama)*

UPCOMING RELEASE (22 - 26 MAR 2010)

US

- February Existing Home Sales by National Associate of Realtors on March 23, 2010.
- February Durable Goods New Orders by US Census Bureau on March 24, 2010.
- February New Home Sales by U.S. Census Bureau on March 24, 2010.
- 4Q 2009 GDP Annualized by Bureau of Economic Analysis on March 26, 2010.
- March Consumer Confidence by University of Michigan Survey Research on March 26, 2010.

Eurozone

- March Composite PMI Output by NTC Research on March 24, 2010.
- January Industrial New Orders by Eurostat on March 24, 2010.
- February Money Supply (M3) by European Central Bank (ECB) on March 25, 2010.

Japan

- February Merchandise Trade Balance Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry on March 24, 2010.
- February Corporate Service Price (YOY) by Bank of Japan on March 25, 2010.
- February Consumer Price Index (CPI) by Ministry of Internal Affairs on March 26, 2010.